

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 255, I was unavoidably detained, and I missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey) having assumed the chair, Mr. THORNBERRY, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4568) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HONORING JUNETEENTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Juneteenth, a day of celebration for all Americans. Juneteenth or June 19, 1865, marks the day that Major General Gordon Granger landed in Galveston, Texas to inform slaves that the Civil War was over and they were now free men and women.

Juneteenth is a day honoring President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. It was a Juneteenth that Lincoln's proclamation was finally enforced nationwide, 2½ years after he issued the decree. President Lincoln should be honored for his tremendous efforts on freeing all of the slaves, and we must recognize this important day in our Nation's history.

Since then, Juneteenth has been a day of celebration largely in the African American culture and especially for African Americans in Texas. Many communities celebrated in churches or in far off rural areas. But as times have changed and more African Americans began to own land and to experience freedom, sites were dedicated specifically for celebrations and more people began to participate.

In 1872, Reverend Jack Yates raised \$1,000 to purchase a park in Houston named Emancipation Park in honor of the Juneteenth holiday. With public land acquisitions such as this, more Americans have become aware of this event and began to celebrate its heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time to commend President Abraham Lincoln. Not only was President Lincoln a great Republican abolitionist in history, he was a great leader from my home State of Illinois. His vision and dream of freeing slaves was finally a reality on June 19th, 1865, the day we now know as Juneteenth. His efforts freed thousands, hundreds of thousands of slaves across our Nation.

Another person that I must note is Owen Lovejoy from Princeton, Illinois. Lovejoy is a former Republican Congressman from Bureau County and was a pioneer in the abolitionist movement in Congress. In 1863, he introduced the Emancipation Proclamation in legislative form to the Congress. With the support and leadership of President Lincoln, it was passed and became Public Law. He is yet another example of a fighter for freedom and liberty. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to serve the 11th District of Illinois, the home of former Congressman Owen Lovejoy.

Today, Juneteenth is not only celebrated by Americans, but by people all over the world. More and more communities continue to coordinate celebrations, whether it is in the workplace, school, or at home.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage this Congress to mark Juneteenth as the day in history that forever changed the lives of thousands of Americans in 1865 and continues to have an impact on current future generations.

Mr. Speaker, as this celebration of heritage continues to grow, I would like to honor this day of celebration we know as Juneteenth, June 19, 1865, and encourage all Americans to observe this day of emancipation and strength.

SMART SECURITY AND BUSH ADMINISTRATION CONDONING OF TORTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, American troops are being court-martialed daily for their role in the heinous crimes that took place in Abu Ghraib, the prison in Iraq. For sure, their role in these incidents is embarrassing and shameful.

But if we are searching for the true culprits for these abuses, which include the sexual assault, forced sodomy, and death of Iraqi prisoners, we need look no further than August 1, 2002.

That is the day the Justice Department advised the White House in a memo to Alberto Gonzalez, President Bush's top counsel, that torturing al Qaeda terrorists in captivity "may be

justified." The memo also stated that "necessity and self-defense could provide justifications that would eliminate any criminal liability" for the use of torture.

It is not just the physical abuses that took place in Iraqi prisons that is appalling. The thing that is just as appalling is that legal abuses took place here at home too within our own government, when high-ranking officials in the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice affirmed the use of torture as a war tactic.

The White House and the Pentagon approval of torture is not only shameful, it also flies in the face of America's human rights standards. And what happened to the United States setting a positive example for the rest of the world?

That is not what Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld would have us believe. Rumsfeld wants the American public to think that the use of torture was isolated to Abu Ghraib; that by merely court-martialing those directly responsible for inflicting the abuse who he called "a few bad apples," well, now we have gotten to the bottom of it.

But the fact that torture occurred in separate places and under the command of different interrogators leads many to believe that a more systematic failure took place. And I believe that the discovery of the Justice Department's appalling sanctioning of torture confirms that belief.

Furthermore, an investigation by the New Yorker Magazine detailed a Pentagon operation that encouraged the physical coercion, otherwise known as torture, of Iraqi prisoners in an attempt to produce intelligence about the post-war insurgency in Iraq.

This information was also substantiated by Newsweek Magazine, and do not forget about the memo that called the use of torture "justified." What more evidence does one need to understand that this administration condoned and approved the use of torture?

There is an eerie pattern at work here. First Guantanamo Bay, then Abu Ghraib. Now we are learning that prisoners in Afghanistan have been subjected to torture by American soldiers. It is becoming very clear that the really "bad apples" are at the top of the barrel. They are, in fact, in the White House.

There has to be a better way, Mr. Speaker, a more intelligent way, a way rooted in the values that we hold dear in the United States, and there is. I have introduced H. Con. Res. 392, legislation to create smart security for the 21st century. SMART stands for Sensible, Multilateral, American Response to Terrorism.

SMART treats war as an absolute last resort. It fights terrorism with stronger intelligence and multilateral partnerships. It controls the spread of weapons of mass destruction with a renewed commitment to nonproliferation; and it aggressively invests in the development of impoverished nations,

with an emphasis on women's health and education.

SMART security means interrogation, not torture. It means an open government, one we can trust to do the right thing; not one that will hide behind Justice Department memos condoning torture and secret Pentagon plans on how to use torture to America's advantage during war.

The situation in the Middle East requires the best America has to offer. SMART security relies on the very best of America: our commitment to peace and freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for multilateral leadership.

Let us be smart about our future in this country. SMART security is tough, SMART security is pragmatic and patriotic, and it will keep America safe and honored by the rest of the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MURPHY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

BUSH ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr.

McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, "environment" is a dirty word in the current administration and they have the record to prove it.

The administration has turned over environmental stewardship to special interests. The Vice President held secret meetings with energy companies to craft the new energy policy. It does not address renewable resources or energy efficiency. Instead, the Cheney Special Interest Energy Task Force called for more oil drilling and more coal production.

Efforts by the public to learn for about these secret meetings were unsuccessful. That is because Attorney General John Ashcroft issued a new directive urging all Federal agencies to deny all Freedom of Information requests whenever possible.

The administration's actions go far beyond our own borders. A new film, "The Day After Tomorrow," depicts a world plunged into a new ice age because we refuse to address global warming. They say the truth is stranger than fiction.

The President called the U.S. out of the so-called Kyoto Protocol. Mr. Speaker, 160 nations had agreed to work together to address critical global warming issues.

Under democratic President Bill Clinton, the U.S. had agreed to be part of this worldwide global initiative to save the world. This President not only withdrew from Kyoto, he also worked to reduce clean air standards at our oldest and most polluted power plants. The administration could not get Congress to reduce Mercury standards, so the administration reduced them on their own.

The administration has proposed something they call a Clear Skies Initiative. They could have called it the Dark Cloud Policy. The effect of dark cloud is to gut clean water and air standards. If they get it through, the industry would have another reason to pollute, direct from the White House. Now, that is a new definition of environmental stewardship.

The administration does not just propose new pollution legislation. This administration has been redefining existing definitions to help industry pollute. A case in point: older coal-fired power plants, among the worst polluters, have a new definition of "upgrade" that allows them to avoid installing new technology to reduce pollution.

In one of America's great places, Yellowstone National Park, we now have, surprise, calls by the administration to let snowmobiles continue to pollute the air and noise. But the Park Service plans to phase in banning snowmobiles from the park suddenly needs, yes, more study. That is administration speak for special interests.

There are plenty of places in America, millions of acres available for snowmobiles, but the snowmobile lobby went right through the oval office.

Now, Congress is trying to save Yellowstone from the administration's tactics.

The President turned his back on his own campaign pledge to reduce industry carbon dioxide emissions, a major contributor to greenhouse gases. Oil drilling has been given a green light in the Padre Island National Seashore. It is off the coast of Texas, and it is the first national park to be open to drilling. It has dramatically increased logging in the Pacific Northwest, and is trying to convince the world that fake salmon are better than natural salmon.

The list of environmental transgressions is so long that 5 minutes is not enough, 5 hours is not enough, and 5 days would not be enough to help the American people understand what has happened to our environment since this President took office. They are polluting the air, polluting our water, and it affects human beings as much as it affects environmental degradation. Ask any one of the youngsters in this country in the epidemic of asthma.

None of this matters to the administration. The special interests have spoken and given hundreds of millions of dollars to Republican political campaigns.

□ 2300

That buys access to the Oval Office and, they hope, to places like Yellowstone.

The rest of us are told there is no problem. We are just reactionaries. The evidence is overwhelming, we are told we need more research. Big tobacco always said that about cigarettes and lung cancer. They said it every time someone else new was diagnosed with lung cancer. Why do we not do some more studies?

Well, this administration is doing exactly what big tobacco did. First, deny, deny, deny. Then attack your critics. Then say we need more study. Then attack the study and call for research.

At a time when the world needs environmental leadership, the Administration offers environmental plunder. We can no longer accept that.

Everyone has heard of Lord of the Rings. In fact, many have seen it. In J.R.R. Tolkien's Return of the King, the character Gandalf says something that should guide us all.

"It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succor of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clear earth to till. What weather they shall have is not ours to rule."

The environment is not for sale. The American people need to know that. Look at the record. Save the environment while there is still time. November 2 is coming.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.